

activities that will not be covered under insurance this coming year. That means that every company that does those activities will not function because you cannot function without liability insurance in this country.

So what we are doing is we are continuing to limit the number of activities that we can have, jobs produced for Americans, all at the benefit of the trial lawyers of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE KARY WESTMORELAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I stand to pay tribute to an outstanding and distinguished human being, Joe Kary Westmoreland, from my district who died just recently.

Joe began his musical career by singing and playing the piano at a very early age in New Morning Star Baptist Church. After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School, he moved to Los Angeles to continue his education. He attended Los Angeles City College and the University of California at Los Angeles where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1981.

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In 2000, Joe received a doctoral degree from the Pentecostal Bible College, West Coast Campus.

Joe taught choral music at Duarte High School, Occidental College, and UCLA. For over a quarter of a century, he served the First African Methodist Episcopal Church of Los Angeles, many of these years as Minister of Music. Since 1976, his gospel music compositions have been presented in over 100 concerts by major orchestras and two films, *Music in Time* and *Zubin Rocks Gospel*, and are in public libraries around the country. One aired on three segments of CBS' 60 Minutes.

The North Carolina Symphony and Interdenominational Choir performed seven of Joe's compositions at the Shaw University Heritage Festival, from 1977 through 1980. He conceived and helped produce the noted, *Hallelujah Concert: A Tribute to Gospel Music*, held at the Great Western Forum in Inglewood, California. Joe was the first composer of gospel music to have his works performed by Zubin Mehta and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra as well as the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

In 1982, Joe was commissioned by the Albany Symphony to write a gospel mass. This music was also performed by the Utah Symphony Orchestra in 1983. And in 1987, together with Charles May, he wrote the gospel opera, *Job*, which starred Reverend Daryl Coley and the First AME Freedom Choir. It was performed again in 1988 for the Los Angeles Festival and for the AME General Conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

His credits go on and on in the area of music and gospel and bringing the

two together. He wrote the gospel opera, *Jezebel*, which was performed in the Vision Theater in Los Angeles for a full month. His musical talents have not been unrewarded, and he has received every single award across the board.

Mr. Speaker, this is the kind of citizen that we need more of. He leaves a tremendous legacy in music and song but, most of all, in spirituality. And I want to extend my sympathy to his wife who stood by him all of those years, through an automobile accident, through several strokes and heart attacks, but he was still able to write and perform. He had been married to his wife for 39 years.

We pay tribute to his spirit, to his life, and we wish him a rest that is well-deserved in the hands of our Lord.

SCIENCE POLICY/STEM CELL RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a number of my colleagues have already spoken on, I think, a very important initiative or series of initiatives that require, unfortunately, the attention of this Congress and certainly the attention of many of our committees and particularly the one I serve on, the House Committee on Science.

I believe that the administration's science policy is adrift. We have not focused on the important needs of this Nation as relate to issues dealing with nanotechnology and basic research, environmental issues, and, of course, stem cell research, space exploration, and the International Space Station.

I rise in the backdrop of some 2 years since the tragedy of Columbia VII with so many of our brilliant scientists that flew into space with great hopes and aspirations to be able to press for space exploration, to be able to enhance a better quality of life for those of us who live on earth.

Space exploration has found, in many instances, ways to create a better life for human beings. It was the beginning of the understanding of the human genome. It certainly has been at the backbone of research dealing with cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, heart conditions, stroke and aging. So we know there is value in exploring space. Other technological advances have been the beneficiary of that, yet I do not think we have done enough on Admiral Gehman's report on the issue of safety. I do not believe we have yet to complete, legislatively, the instructions that Admiral Gehman gave to us. The administration has been slow in acting.

I, for many months now, have been asking for a full and complete hearing on the questions of safety on the International Space Station. Just recently, we determined there was a leakage

that had to be fixed by the only two remaining astronauts on the International Space Station. We have yet to create a vehicle that can allow additional travel for additional astronauts to go back and forth to enhance the safety of the International Space Station by repairing some of the problems with that space station.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues on the House Committee on Science to move forward on a hearing now on the safety questions of the International Space Station and begin again hearings to hear from NASA as to its implementation or its proposals for ensuring that human space shuttles fly again. These matters have not been attended to, and it puts us very far behind the work we should be doing in science.

I also note for those who have been following the discussion dealing with the stem cell research that, in the United States, millions of people are suffering needlessly. They are suffering because the administration is putting aside a century-long commitment to investing in and making use of good science in order to better the lives of the American people.

Furthermore, I am sorry to say that this Congress has been derelict in its duty to critically oversee the administration and to push creative and thoughtful legislation that will keep this Nation moving forward.

We discovered a few weeks ago articles reporting on the decrease, the dumping down of dollars going into our research laboratories and our other research facilities such that professors and those who are graduating this year with the expertise of research, who can be part of new discoveries for the 21st century, are wondering whether they will have positions in research institutions around the Nation, whether or not there are enough Federal dollars to create opportunities for research. We would be certainly remiss if we did not fight for and seek to increase those dollars to keep from losing that talent.

We are finding now that international students, likewise, are finding their way to research labs elsewhere rather than coming to the United States and providing us the opportunity of being first in line with outstanding research that will again increase our quality of life. It was at the beginning of the new computer age, the Internet, the Web, all of that created by new bright minds, some of those in military research facilities, with dollars that were provided from our Federal Government.

As of this week, more than 5,000 scientists have signed on to a statement produced by the Union of Concerned Scientists accusing the administration of misusing and fully abusing scientific methodology. Signers include 48 Nobel laureates, 62 National Medal of Science recipients, and 127 members of the National Academy of Sciences. A number of these scientists have served in multiple administrations, both Democratic